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## ALEXANDRIA:

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## A Speech Proposed—and how only it can be answered.

The Richmond Enquirer has a bit of satire, which is as effective as a grave argument would be—and, probably, more so. Its pitch and point need no direction to show them to the reader. The Enquirer proposes that the Whig Convention should nominate Andrew Hunter, or some other old Whig like him—and then gives what it thinks would probably be the speech of such a candidate, to the people, in the present condition of public affairs. But let us hear the Enquirer in full:

We can well imagine how a man of Mr. Hunter's tact and intelligence would play his part. The following would probably be the epitome of his opening address:

"Fellow-Citizens:—For the last few years I have stood aloof from existing party organizations and the current of partisan politics. Immovably attached to the great plan of public policy expounded by Daniel Webster and Henry Clay, I have, of late, found no organized party to embody its principles or to further its dictates. But at this moment, an unforeseen conjuncture offers the opportunity for re-organization upon the platform of 1848. From a point whence we least expected, a new light has issued to guide us back to the efficient vindication of the American System. The President of the United States, elected and sustained by a party which has hitherto staked its existence on the suppression of this policy, now comes forward, and by official recommendations endorses and reasserts every leading feature of the time-honored doctrines of the Whig party. Internal Improvements by the General Government, a protective tariff, immediate federal control over all the financial agencies of the Union, embodying the Whig policy of a bankrupt law, and answering every purpose of a national bank, a larger standing army, an increased navy—all these criteria of Whig faith are openly advocated by the President. And the course of policy adopted by the Administration, amply demonstrates that these indications are not employed as mere catchwords of popularity. The whole scheme is well adapted to the full accomplishment of the obvious tendencies, and the way has been prepared for such re-composition with unmistakable sagacity. In the fall of 1857, when the pressure of a financial crisis was already reducing the receipts of the Treasury, the balance in the Treasury was more than sufficient to have wiped out the public debt. A narrow-minded, so-called 'strict-constructionist' view, would have required such an application of the fund. More enlarged views prevailed.—The Administration recognized the high duty of relieving commercial pressure, even at the expense of the Treasury. The interest of the people was cared for. Instead of deferring the application of a number of appropriations, they were promptly paid over, and the fund was poured freely into the coffers of banks at the great commercial centre of New York. Other appropriations have since been applied, and the general system of expenditure conducted on the same liberal principle. The consequence is that the public debt has increased, until it has become a great conservative element of government, supplying investment to large capitalists; and the current rate of expenditure has grown to a size which requires for its support a tariff essentially protective, which ever may be its form. Everything has thus been prepared, the way has been paved for a protective tariff, and now the recommendation of specific duties is all sufficient to render the system permanent."

"On the subject of Internal Improvements, the President has gone to the full limit required by the most ardent advocate of the system. Passing by the old idea of 'common defence and general welfare,' he finds in the power to 'declare war,' a far broader scope for the application of a doctrine, the great patriotic object of which is to consolidate this Union of States by material bonds, winding through every member and binding all together, with more than adamantine strength."

"And the policy of a federal bankrupt law has been revived in a form which gives it new vitality and ten-fold strength. It is adapted to a vigorous centralization of political control in the hands of the General Government—to the annihilation of small and precarious provincial establishments, the building up of a great central bank, more powerful than the old bank of the United States, which will supply every remote point with money accommodation through its radiating agencies."

"Nor are we left without assurance on another point of Whig policy. The present liberal management of the Land Office, furnishes the best practical argument of a distribution of public lands. It scatters to the wind the strict constructionist idea that this property shall be held as a source of revenue—since, under the present system, instead of yielding revenue, it is an actual burden to the Treasury."

"Thus the great cardinal objects of the governmental policy which have ever constituted the conservative political creed of the nation, are all secured, &c., &c., &c."

"I take my stand, then, side by side with James Buchanan, on the great questions of national policy. I shall regard my election as Governor of Virginia, in the light of a direct endorsement of the principles which he sustains, and which I desire to see permanently carried out in the administration of the General Government. I appeal to the supporters of the President, not less than to the men who have sustained his principles under a party organization different from his own, to unite with me in bringing the potent force of the voice of Virginia, to sustain him in his present position. That position has become a necessity of the age in which we live. It behooves us then to cast aside the mere partisan prejudices and personal animosities in which we have hitherto indulged, and to ignore mere obstructions. By endorsing the course of the Union, I appeal for a decision at the polls which will enable her thus to control the destiny of the Confederation."

This is the speech which the Richmond Enquirer puts in the mouth of the Whig candidate for Governor! How will our Democratic friends like it, or the spirit in which it is furnished to our use? How do they relish the "truths severe in fiction dressed," and thus presented to their consideration?

And how does the Enquirer propose that such a speech shall be answered, and what

does it think is the only way in which it can be answered? It says:—"How shall we meet such an appeal? Standing firmly on the 'Cincinnati platform,' WE MUST REPLY:—**THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:**—The Democratic candidate will at once raise the old Democratic banner of State Rights, Strict Construction, Anti-Internal Improvements by the General Government, Anti-Protective Tariff, Anti-Bankrupt Law, Anti-Distribution of Public Lands, Retrenchment and Reform: Such is the course marked out for Mr. Letcher by his 'letter of acceptance, by his previous pledges, by the voice of the unwavering Democracy of his State.' In other words, it admits that the only way for the Democratic candidate to support the true principles of the Democratic party, is to repudiate the President's recommendations, and, in effect, to set up an opposition to him and his Administration! James Buchanan is turned over, without ceremony, to the Whigs, whose doctrines and principles, it is alleged, he is now supporting and carrying out, and the Democratic ranks are called upon to close, and exclude him not only from leadership and command, but even from fellowship or alliance!"

The Washington States discusses the question:—"Have we a Democratic party among us?"—and comes to the deliberate conclusion "that there is now no Democratic party in existence." It contends that the Democrats are agreed upon no basis of principle—that they differ upon the subjects of the Pacific Railroad, federal appropriations for Rivers and Harbors, and the Tariff—and "that the disagreement between the President and the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the last question, is a symbol of an equivalent difference among the Democracy." It also, says that there is no organization in the party—that the President's recommendations have no weight nor authority—that what was the party is split up into factions—and that there are as many cliques and cabals, as there are aspirants for the Presidency. "Finally," says the States—"one of the ablest and most independent Democratic journals in the country,"—"even in the matter of the spoils, they exhibit the same diversity of interest and policy observable in every other regard. The course of the present Democratic Executive has been signalized by the indiscriminate ostracism of the surviving office-holders of its Democratic predecessor. And in respect of future promotion, the rival factions in the party are more intent each on the defeat of its rival, than on the overthrow of the common enemy. Greater confusion of tongue and opposition of interests did not prevail among the children of men, after their ambitious but abortive attempt in the plain of Shinarump, than are now visible in the broken ranks and mutual animosities of the once harmonious and triumphant Democracy."

The New York correspondent of the National Intelligencer says that "the friends of a 'free and unfettered commerce' have been somewhat puzzled to reconcile certain inconsistencies of our public men. We had spent years of diplomacy in getting rid of the Danish Sound dues as an odious shackle upon commerce, and we have just achieved the gratifying concession from China and Japan of open seas and liberal commercial intercourse. The gratulations of our people have not yet died upon the public ear before we hear the extraordinary doctrine proclaimed in both Houses of Congress that the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea ought to be a *mare clausum*—a closed sea! Is this the sort of 'progress' which our civilization would inculcate and enforce?"

Speaking of the conviction of Cropps and Corrie, for murder, the Baltimore Patriot says:—"As is usual in such cases, a motion may be made for a new trial, without, however, any hope of obtaining it. After the proper time has elapsed, both Cropps and Corrie will be brought out, sentenced, and remanded to Baltimore jail to await their death warrants and the extreme penalty of the Law, in expiation of the terrible crime of which they now stand convicted. We cannot but hope justice has been fairly meted out, and with the entire community, must think it right, that dread retribution is likely to overtake offenders so reckless and inhuman."

In the course of a Lecture on Comets, delivered in New York, by that eminent Astronomer, Prof. Mitchell, he said:—"Comets are a mystery. We simply know nothing about them. In speaking of the appearance of these nebular bodies, Prof. Mitchell confessed that he could not expect to receive the nebulous hypothesis as presenting the most satisfactory way of accounting for the cosmography of the universe. It was no atheistical idea, but the greatest that ever filled the human mind. I do not say positively this hypothesis is true, but I announce here to night that the evidence in favor of it, is stronger than was the evidence in favor of the law of gravitation at the time of Newton's death."

In the course of a speech in the Senate, on Wednesday, on the Pacific Railroad bill, Mr. Bell, of Tenn., remarked on the singular fact, that those who would the propriety of building a Pacific Railroad, because of their constitutional scruples, unconsciously adopt, in advocating the acquisition of Cuba, the same line of argument which is held to be so unsound when urged by the friends of the railroad. If it was lawful and proper to acquire Cuba because that Island was necessary to the military defenses and commercial aggrandisement of the country, why was it inadvisable to employ the same reasons in advocacy of the Pacific Railroad?

The Washington Union has an article in favor of the "American Policy of Expansion by purchase." This is a limitation to the "Manifest Destiny" doctrine. The "destiny" is only to be fulfilled when we have "money in our purse." Establish this doctrine, and we are sure to have "high tariffs"—much too high for us! Whenever the eye covets a neighbor's lands, we must buy. To be sure, this is better than taking and "conquering."

Mr. De Bow is writing a series of articles for the Richmond Enquirer recommending Richmond as the site for the proposed National Foundry. Here is the place—in Alexandria—right under the eye of the general government—and with facilities unsurpassed.

We have received several numbers of "Our Musical Friend," published by Seymour & Co., New York, containing a variety of new and fashionable Music.

The Union calls upon Congress "to establish the laws of the United States in Arizona"—that is, to establish a territorial government there.

And how does the Enquirer propose that such a speech shall be answered, and what

## News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the TIMES."

It is true that the second instalment for the purchase of Fort Snelling, the sale of which excited so much comment last session, has not been paid. It was due in July, but owing to various causes, and perhaps materially to the agitation in Congress, the property was materially affected in value, and the speculation failed in the object of its combination. Parties who claim to be well informed, assert that abundant security is possessed by the Government for the fulfilment of the contract.

An interesting correspondence has taken place in China between the American missionaries on the one part, and the U. S. Commissioner to China, Hon. Wm. B. Reed, on the other. The missionaries acknowledge with gratitude and high consideration, his successful efforts in behalf of our common Christianity, by procuring the insertion in the treaty of a clause which provides for a full toleration of the Christian religion throughout that vast empire.

Gen. Paez landed at Cumana on the 18th ultimo, somewhat improved in health. The crew of the U. S. steamer Atlanta carried the General to his house, an honor which the people of Cumana wished to enjoy themselves. He arrived at Porto Cabello on the 4th inst., direct from Cumana, and left the next day for Valencia, still unable to walk.

Advices from Superintendent Neighbors, dated January 10th, confirm the account of the murder of a party of friendly Indians, by a party of white men, near the Brazos agency, on the 27th ult. Mr. Neighbors describes this deed as one of the most unprovoked and atrocious of which he had ever heard.

At Leavenworth, Kansas, January 25, a second attempt, resulting in success, was made to rescue the alleged fugitive slave Charley, alias Peter Fisher. The door of the room in which he was confined was cut down and the rescuing party left the city with the fugitive. The excitement was high, and a party had gone in pursuit.

It would seem from the accounts, that extensive gold fields have been found in Nebraska, not in Kansas, as some of the papers have claimed. Mr. John A. Parker, Jr., at present Register of the Land office at Omaha, has specimens of the gold taken from the mines in Nebraska, which are said to be much finer than the gold of California or Australia.

The Newburyport Herald is of the opinion that the repeal of the fishing bounties, as it is now proposed by Congress to do, will result in the entire destruction of the American cod fishery, as it thinks we shall then be unable to compete in that line with the bounty-paying nations.

A most ingenious instrument for Telegraphing, has been invented by Dr. S. K. Jackson, of Leesburg. This instrument has been pronounced by scientific gentlemen of the North, familiar with telegraphing, a decided improvement on all instruments of a similar character.

The practice of taking down sermons in shorthand notes had reached such a height in Frankfurt that the Consistories both of the Calvinistic and the Lutheran bodies have thought it necessary to prohibit it for the future. "The church," says the ordinance, "is not a lecture room, but a house of prayer."

Wm. A. Cooke, esq., has sent thirty copies of his "Constitutional History of the United States" to Mr. Everett, as a donation to the Mount Vernon fund. Mr. Cooke invites the various authors in the United States to join him in this mode of weaving a literary wreath to deck the tomb of the "father of his country."

The celebrated trotting horse Blue Dick, died in Philadelphia, on Sunday evening.—His death resulted from the effects of injuries received on Tuesday last, by coming in contact with a furniture car. He was a splendid specimen of his race, and his skeleton will be preserved in the museum of the American Veterinary College.

Mr. Jonathan Gillespie, a worthy and respected citizen of Prince Georges county, Md., much esteemed for his many excellencies of character, died on Tuesday last, in the Baltimore Infirmary, whither he had been carried for medical treatment.

It appears from the New Orleans Picayune that Thomas Conner, who was arrested there on the 19th inst., for killing his brother John, in Baltimore, was pointed out on the street to Lieut. Dryden, of the police, by Mr. Alexander E. Kalkman, a Baltimorean.

The ship Louisa, Capt. Montague, was lost on the 1st inst., on the Isle of Pines. She was bound from Marseilles for New Orleans, having left the former place on the 4th of November. It is reported that all on board the unfortunate vessel were rescued.

The cost of the coast survey for the thirteen years ending with 1856 was \$3,710,000; and for half of the year 1857 \$258,000, making a total, added to the facilities furnished by the navy, of \$4,247,000.

Eliaser F. Backus, esq., formerly and for many years engaged in the publishing and book trade at Albany, N. Y., died on Saturday last, in Philadelphia, whither he removed about twenty years ago.

A company boring for coal, near Newcastle, Pa., have reached a depth of 165 feet, and are now going through a stratum of sandstone rock. They are determined to go 280 or 225 feet before giving it up.

At Honolulee, Jan. 25, a young man named George W. Wilson committed suicide by shooting himself with a pistol. The reason assigned for the act is disappointment in love.

When Mr. Douglas shall have filled out the term in the Senate to which he has just been elected, he will have served twenty-two years in Congress—four in the House and eighteen in the Senate.

The second Executive reception of the season, in Washington, on Tuesday night, was undoubtedly one of the largest and most brilliant that has ever been held.

It is stated in the Buffalo Commercial that there are fifty-three steam canal boats built and in process of construction for the coming season of navigation on the Erie Canal.

A fire occurred on the 16th at Batesville, Ark., destroying property valued at \$50,000, including the Batesville Institute and the Masonic Lodge.

The Front Royal (Va.) Gazette records the death of Rev. J. N. Eakin of the M. E. church.

H. M. Inskeep, clerk of the Bank of the Valley, at Romney, Va., died suddenly on last Sunday.

Edward Macready, the son of the tragedian, has been reading passages of "Hamlet" to the inhabitants of Bombay!

Hon. E. A. Hannegan, ex-United States Senator from Indiana, has taken the field as a lyceum lecturer.

Already fault is found with the new United States Senate Chamber. Mr. Hale, on Friday, pleaded for an extension of the room to the wall of the building on the end and on both sides, so as to have the advantage of windows and fresh air. He also said that another defect had been developed, and that was if a shower beats upon the roof we cannot hear. That is," he said, "the case at this moment. I think it is the most unhealthy, uncomfortable, ill-contrived place I was ever in, in my life and my health is suffering daily from the atmosphere."

A few mornings since a strolling man, named Tucker, his wife and two children, were found frozen to death in a barn, in Westchester county, N. Y. The unfortunate pair were about the day previous, asking alms, and it is supposed that they not having enough money to purchase a night's lodging, and being chilled, weary and homeless, had gone into the barn for a shelter from the inclemency of the weather, with the intention of remaining there during the night taking their children with them, and were all frozen to death.

On Sunday morning, a serious accident occurred in the dwelling of R. Y. Jones, esq., at Petersburg, Va., occasioned by the explosion of a range, situated in the basement, from which warm water was conveyed to the different apartments above, which it is feared will result in the death of a valuable woman. The Express says:—"The woman had made a fire in the furnace as usual, but the water in the pipes being frozen, prevented the escape of the steam, and while she was yet engaged before the range, the explosion took place."

On Sunday night last six slaves belonging to Miss Ann Smith, of Easton, Md., went to sleep in a close room, after heating therein a small furnace with charcoal. About an hour subsequently, as we learn from the Star, one of them awoke, nearly suffocated, and found all his companions sleeping. An alarm was given, the furnace removed, fresh air admitted, and cold water freely applied, thus saving them from certain death in a short time, as gas from charcoal is a deadly poison.

A few days ago there was placed in the niche, expressly constructed for its reception, in front of the new warehouse of Noah Walker & Co., in Baltimore street, in Baltimore, a Statue of Washington, in Carrara marble, which is not less remarkable as a work of art, than as the last production of an American Sculptor, whose extraordinary genius and indomitable energy of character, have never been adequately appreciated by his countrymen. Edward Sheffield Bartholomew.

Oliver Rice, a soldier of the revolution, died in Mayfield, Fulton county, N. Y., last week. He was 92 years old. He was employed as an express rider in the revolution, and in that capacity executed commissions for Washington. He belonged to the Free Masons over 70 years, and passed through twenty degrees. He had laid aside \$200 to defray the expenses of his burial with masonic honors, with the request that a Mason should preach his funeral sermon, and his wishes were faithfully complied with.

The Hon. J. P. Benjamin, of Louisiana, was re-elected by the Legislature of that State, on the 24th instant, a Senator in Congress for six years from the 4th of March next, when his present term will expire.—There had been a protracted contest in caucus for the nomination, and when the result of the election reached New Orleans, the public gratification was manifested by the firing of one hundred guns.

A terrible fight occurred in McKee, the county seat of Jackson, Ky., on Monday week, which resulted in the death of two of the parties concerned. Samuel Isaacs was killed on the ground, and John Morris died the day after. A son of John Morris was also nearly cut to pieces, but is not yet dead. Several others were more or less injured. A feud has for a long time existed between the Morris and Isaacs.

Piccolomini receives \$4,000 a month, in addition to the travelling expenses of herself, family, and suite; and her visit to this country is the joint enterprise of Mr. Ullman, of the New York Academy of Music, and Mr. Lamley of her Majesty's in London, who, after expending, divide the profits from the tour, which are said to have been since her arrival here up to the close of her engagement in New York, \$53,000.

At a meeting of the Warren Agricultural Society, held in Vicksburg, Mississippi, on the 3d instant, it was resolved to establish a cotton factory in that county, under the protection of the association. The design is to manufacture coarse cotton fabrics, and the members of the association pledge themselves to each other to give the enterprise their undivided support.

Col. Tal. P. Shaffner, who has interested himself much in telegraphic matters, says that "during the coming summer, with engineers already engaged, he intends to travel over and examine the route, via Greenland, Iceland, and the Faroe Isles, which, in his opinion, is the only one practicable for a telegraph between Europe and America."

Dr. Livingstone, who writes from the Zambesi, Africa, September 14th, speaks of that river as navigable for small draught steamers for ten months in the year, if not constantly. He also mentions a fact of great importance to the future of African commerce, that there is "an immense coal field" at Tete, on the Zambesi.

There is a gentleman in New Orleans, a merchant and a planter, and we regret to add, a bachelor, whose income this year will reach the handsome sum of five hundred thousand dollars, who, twenty-five years ago, was a clerk with a salary of fifty dollars a month.

The decision of the Maryland court of Appeals reverses the opinion of the Criminal Court, refusing a new trial in the case of Ford, convicted of the murder of Burnham, mainly upon the ground that when the jury was polled the foreman only responded "guilty of murder in the first degree," whilst the other eleven jurors simply replied "guilty."

Capt. John Travis, the great pistol shot, has gone to Huntsville, Ala., to display his skill in the use of that weapon. He proposes, at the place named, among other exploits, to shoot at a half dollar in the hands of a boy who travels with him.

A Douglas democratic organ significantly declares "it is not worth while to disguise the fact that the Democratic party will not elect a President in 1860 without the help of Stephen A. Douglas." The man who doesn't know that, knows but little.

Bishop Simpson, who has been very ill for many months, is so far recovered that he expects to be enabled to resume his duties at the opening of the Spring.

There is said to be a great scarcity of corn in Arkansas, and much suffering in consequence. They are importing it from Tennessee.

Riley W. Slacum, has been appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, Chief Coiner of the U. S. Mint in California.

## House of Representatives—January 26.

The House went into committee of the whole, and took up the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill.

The question was taken upon the proviso submitted by Mr. Curry yesterday, in regard to the appropriation for the payment of expenses incurred in pursuance of the act of 1819, and it was laid on the table. Mr. Crawford, of Georgia, said he could not support the appropriation of \$75,000 for carrying into effect the provisions of the act of 1819, because \$20,000 would go to the Colonization Society for supporting and educating the negroes taken from the brig *Eric*; and moved to strike it out. The law of 1819 only authorized the President to provide for the support of the negroes while here, and effect their removal beyond the limits of the United States.

Mr. Stewart, of Md., sustained the action of the President as eminently wise and proper. The law of 1819 required him to take charge of these negroes and deliver them to a proper agent. It is in effecting that result, it became necessary to make a contract with that agent for their support for a year, he could see no good ground for objection. In carrying out the law he thought the President should be guided by principles of common sense. He was opposed to these superfluous distinctions made by gentlemen.

Mr. Millson, of Virginia, was surprised at the sensitiveness of southern gentlemen upon this subject, who seemed disposed to treat it as a matter affecting the slave trade. He did not so regard it, for in his opinion if the South condemned the slave trade, she repudiated the basis on which her institutions rest. He thought the President had pursued the proper course in the premises, and quoted from Mr. Monroe to show that in a previous case he took the same ground as Mr. Buchanan.

Mr. Case, of Indiana, moved to strike out the whole section. He thought it should be struck out as an act of consistency in a country where rights of every sort were denied to negroes. Under the very shadow of the capitol they were subjected to outrage and wrong, and consistency required that the same policy should be carried out.

Mr. Keitt, of S. C., said gentlemen from his side of the house had not contended that this appropriation had anything to do with slavery or the slave trade. They had opposed it on the ground that it was a violation of the law. The gentleman from Ohio, yesterday, found fault with his law against him, and made out his argument by an appeal to the sympathies of the House. A great deal had been said of the horrors of the middle passage, of an unregulated slave trade, but they were fully equalled, if not surpassed by the horrors of the emigrant passage between Europe and the Northern States. The shores of New Jersey were whitened with the bones of the victims of the cupidity of eastern ship owners and the carelessness of those having them in charge.

He would not now discuss the question of re-opening the slave trade. He regarded that as a great economic problem which would resolve itself by its own inherent vitality.

Mr. Whiteley, of Del., moved to strike out the enacting clause—lost.

Mr. Crawford's amendment to reduce the appropriation to \$45,000 was carried, by yeas 76, nays 28.

Mr. Seward, of Ga., offered an amendment proviso forbidding all the laws for the suppression of the slave trade, leaving that matter under the control of the several States.

Mr. Bonham, of South Carolina, offered an amendment striking out the two last lines; which was adopted.

Mr. Seward, of Ga., said he looked upon all laws for the suppression of the slave trade as mischievous and unconstitutional. He would not take ground in favor of the revival of that trade, but the laws on the subject contained provisions which were, in his judgment, clearly unconstitutional.

Mr. Burnett protested against this revival of the slavery agitation. The question of the revival of the slave trade was not involved in the appropriation under consideration, and he appealed to gentlemen not to engage in exciting debate upon a subject not before them.

Mr. Singleton said it was not his desire to precipitate a discussion; that the only hope of the South was in a strict adherence to law, and that the course of the proceedings was constantly gaining upon her, and she must interpose the law between herself and her assailants. The appropriation asked for was in violation of law, and he had opposed it on that ground.

Mr. Cochran, of N. Y., said the House was discussing propositions not legitimately before it. It was proposed to repeal the law suppressing the slave trade, he was ready to meet the issue when it was presented.

Mr. Groesbeck said he hoped if that issue was to be made it could be made at once. He was ready to meet it. In his opinion it was more likely that laws would be passed to more faithfully execute those in force than to repeal them.

Mr. Hughes, of Ind., said that the democratic party was based upon the constitution and therefore he belonged to it; but when it should propose to repeal the laws for the suppression of the slave trade, it would cease to exist.

Mr. Barksdale, of Miss., regretted this debate, because it was not the proper time to discuss the subject. He was ready to take his position when the issue came up. He believed the President had violated the law in making the contract, but he believed he was actuated by pure and honest motives.

Mr. Clay, of Ky., rose to a personal explanation. He had said yesterday that he was opposed to all the laws for the suppression of the slave trade, because they were too severe. He had also opposed the 8th article of the treaty of Washington, because out of that had grown the entangling alliance with Great Britain which had led to the perpetration of those outrages in the Gulf of Mexico by her cruisers. He also objected to the expense we were subjected to in keeping a squadron on the coast of Africa but notwithstanding these views, no man was more opposed to a revival of the African slave trade than he was, and he believed the people of his district were with him in that sentiment.

Mr. Miles, of South Carolina, said he was that bug bear, a sectional man. He represented in part the South, which being the weaker party, had to unite in order to protect herself and was, therefore, sectional. He was not a democrat in the party sense of the word. He went with the democracy so far as they adhered to the constitution and the laws, but the moment they asked him to swear on principle, he would turn his back upon them forever. He was not prepared now to advocate the revival of the slave trade, but he did wish to wipe out all laws that stigmatized that trade as piracy, for it was piracy now, it was so when first practised, and he would not consent to affix such a stain upon his forefathers, and upon the people of his section whose institutions were based upon that trade. He believed that the laws on the subject were unconstitutional, and while he would not say that it was politic now to repeal the trade, it might be necessary to England and France carried it on covertly. He denounced the Coolie system as infinitely less mild and humane than that of Africa, and he expressed his conviction that Mr. Goodrich, if it existed in this country, would not take ground in favor of the law that so much light had been shed on the subject, and made some remarks in opposition to the slave trade.

Mr. Houston, of Alabama, remarking that the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means would permit the amendments already

adopted to come before the House, moved that the enacting clause be stricken out. Mr. Garnett, of Virginia, inquired whether the chairman of that committee would do it.

Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, stated that he would himself offer them, although he should vote against them.

The question being taken, the motion of Mr. Houston did not prevail: Yeas 34, nays 44.

The question recurring upon the motion that the whole section as amended be stricken out—

Mr. Bonham, of South Carolina, offered the following additional proviso to be added to the section:

Provided, That no part of said sum shall be used in educating children, or teaching children or adults, the "arts of civilized life."

Mr. Bonham was opposed to the precedent sought to be established. Mr. Monroe had not gone as far as Mr. Buchanan, but still he did not intend to impugn the motives of the President. He believed them to be good, but he had gone beyond the law in making a contract for the education of these negroes. He would go farther than other gentlemen. The President owed no higher obligation than to send these negroes to the States, support them while here, and provide for them after placing them in the hands of a responsible agent and put them in the condition they occupied before their capture. He thought the spirit of the law authorized the President to put them there, but not to the extent of teaching them the arts of civilized life.

The amendment of Mr. Bonham being rejected, the question was taken on the motion of Mr. Case, that the entire section, as amended, be stricken out: and it was agreed to: Yeas 104, nays 26.

On motion of Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, the committee then rose, and reported the bill to the House.

## "The Tenth Legion."

Hear the tall Valley Democrat:—

"The people of Rockbridge are decidedly opposed to a Convention, and will submit to no dictation from other quarters. The only county that seems anxious for a Convention, is the county of Rockbridge. If any Congressional aspirant up that way, would kindly inform us, that a Convention might possibly convene upon a Rockbridge man again, he should dispel at once from his mind such a delusive phantom. Rockbridge has had the representative for twenty years, and he expects to receive our just dues for the next five years. We hope they will take things easy up that way, and submit like philosophers to their fate. The Rockbridge Democracy will subvert the interests of the party in a greater degree, if they desert from agitating the subject of a Convention. The Democracy of the Tenth Legion know as well how to preserve the organization of the party, and have done much more towards it, than a great many others who are so extremely solicitous for the party. The 'cut in the meat tub' is easily discovered."

Now, that's precisely the right sort of talk. The Rockbridge Democrat, must take a back seat for the next fifty years. Good! But what will become of Massie and Dorman, and other eager aspirants for Congress in Rockbridge? "Fifty years!" Why, they will all be in their graves in far less time than that! We recommend to them the daily and solemn perusal of the Scriptures. Their race is running.—Rich. Whig.

A meeting of the Democracy of Augusta County, was held at the Court-house, on Monday last, for the purpose of considering the propriety of recommending a Convention in this Congressional District, to rule off all but one, or perhaps all, of the gentlemen who are announced as candidates. As a matter of course, it was a time that tried the souls of the candidates, and though silent, they were the most deeply anxious individuals in the crowd. The meeting was presided over by that veteran Democrat, Jacob Taylor, esq., who during the course of the proceedings resigned the chair to Col. Anderson, and made an earnest speech in behalf of the policy of holding a Convention. Col. Taylor and Absalom Keiser, esq., took the same view of the matter, while Capt. Hill, and Capt. John A. Harman, thought no danger was to be apprehended from the Opposition, and advocated a free fight. Captain Hill did not believe that any gentleman of the Opposition would take advantage of the Democracy and that such a course would be disagreeable. The chairman thought differently; and that the Opposition would be justified in slipping in a man if they could. The Democracy, who were in a minority, were considered his own party as pure as the Opposition. Various and sundry propositions were made, until things got into a complete tangle, and the utmost confusion prevailed, in the midst of general good humor—all of which we enjoyed hugely. Finally, however, it was concluded to postpone the consideration of the matter until February Court. Upon the adjournment of the meeting, the candidates took the stand to address the people.—Stanton Spectator.

**Bold Robbery.**  
It has been stated that the office of the Treasurer of Coshocott county, Ohio, was robbed of \$19,000 on Friday night last. The Pittsburgh Post gives the following particulars:—

"The Treasurer, Mr. Ketchum, was about closing